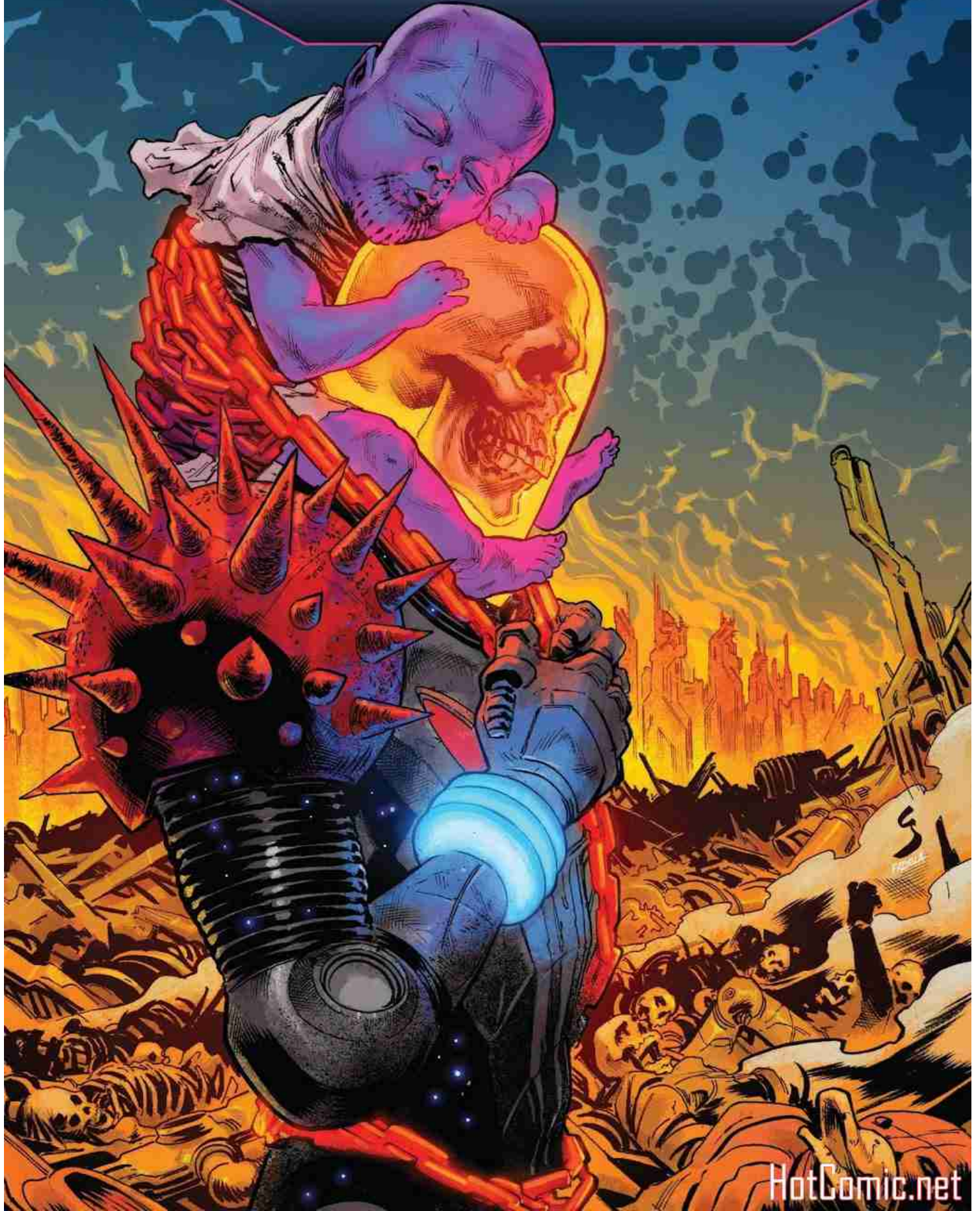


MARVEL

4

CATES
BURNETT
FABELA

COSMIC GHOST RIDER



FRANK CASTLE WAS A DECORATED MARINE AND AN UPSTANDING CITIZEN WHEN HIS FAMILY WAS KILLED IN A MOB HIT. FROM THAT DAY, HE WAS A FORCE OF RETRIBUTION...IN LIFE AND IN HIS ROLES AFTER DEATH — AS GHOST RIDER, AS HERALD OF GALACTUS, AND AS THANOS' RIGHT-HAND MAN.

THEN FRANK DIED FOR REAL — BUT WAS UNABLE TO REST KNOWING THERE WAS JUSTICE LEFT TO SERVE AGAINST THE WORST OF THE WORST: THANOS HIMSELF.

TRAVELING BACK IN TIME, FRANK PLANNED TO KILL THANOS IN HIS CRIB. BUT HE COULDN'T DO IT, DECIDING INSTEAD TO TAKE THANOS ON THE LAM AND TRY TO RAISE HIM RIGHT. THOUGH PLENTY OF FOLKS TRIED TO STOP HIM, FRANK IS DEAD SET ON HIS DECISION — BUT A NEW ARRIVAL MIGHT CHANGE THAT...

COSMIC GHOST RIDER



DONNY CATES
writer

DYLAN BURNETT
artist

ANTONIO FABELA
color artist

VC's CLAYTON COWLES
letterer

GEOFF SHAW & ANTONIO FABELA
cover artists

SUPERLOG, MAXX LIM — BATTLE LINES VARIANT
variant cover artists

CARLOS LAO
graphic designer

ANNALISE BISSA
assistant editor

JORDAN D. WHITE
editor

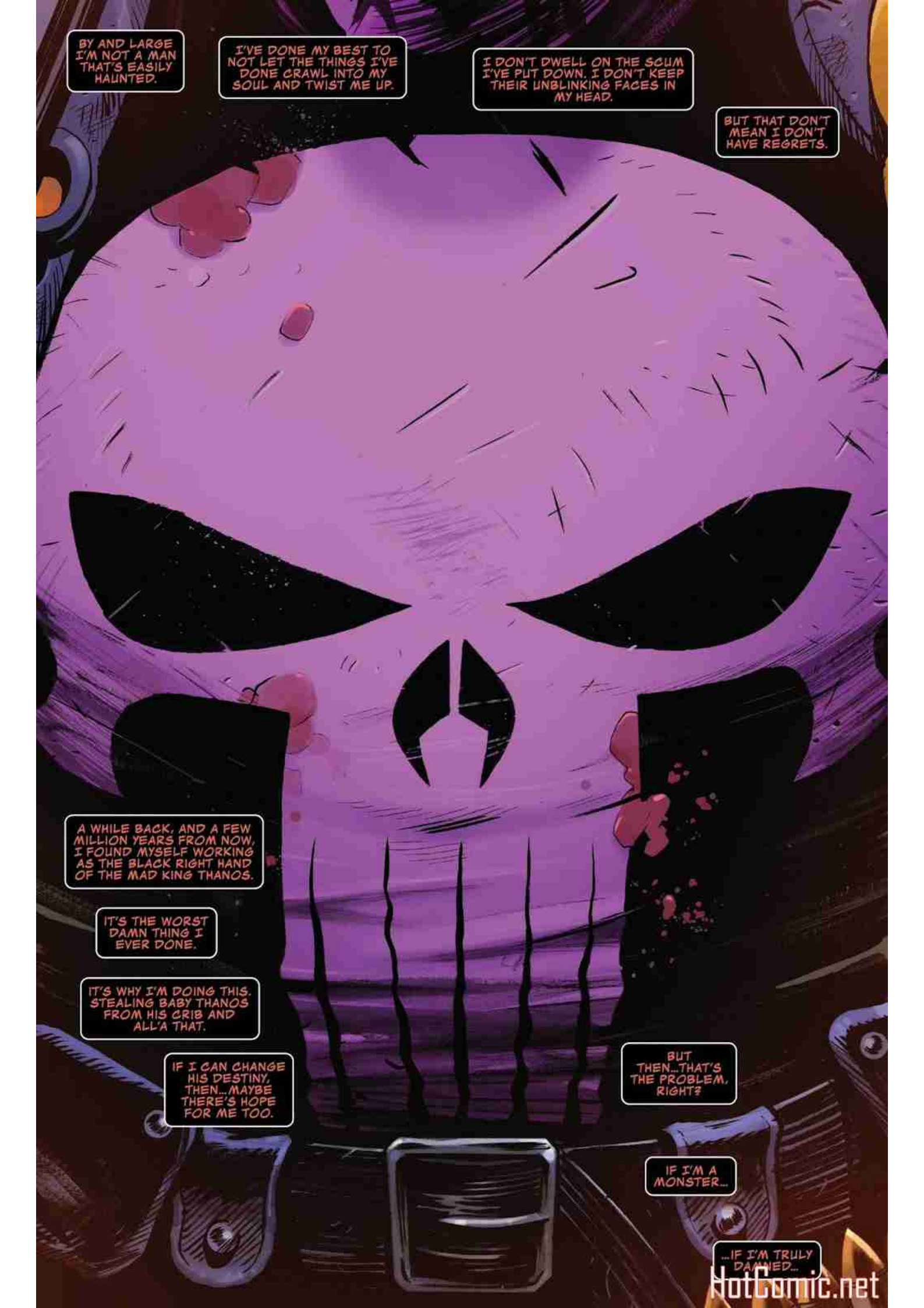
C.B. CEBULSKI
editor in chief

JOE QUESADA
chief creative officer

DAN BUCKLEY
president

ALAN FINE
exec. producer

HotComic.net



BY AND LARGE
I'M NOT A MAN
THAT'S EASILY
HAUNTED.

I'VE DONE MY BEST TO
NOT LET THE THINGS I'VE
DONE CRAWL INTO MY
SOUL AND TWIST ME UP.

I DON'T DWELL ON THE SCUM
I'VE PUT DOWN. I DON'T KEEP
THEIR UNBLINKING FACES IN
MY HEAD.

BUT THAT DON'T
MEAN I DON'T
HAVE REGRETS.

A WHILE BACK, AND A FEW
MILLION YEARS FROM NOW,
I FOUND MYSELF WORKING
AS THE BLACK RIGHT HAND
OF THE MAD KING THANOS.

IT'S THE WORST
DAMN THING I
EVER DONE.

IT'S WHY I'M DOING THIS.
STEALING BABY THANOS
FROM HIS CRIB AND
ALL'A THAT.

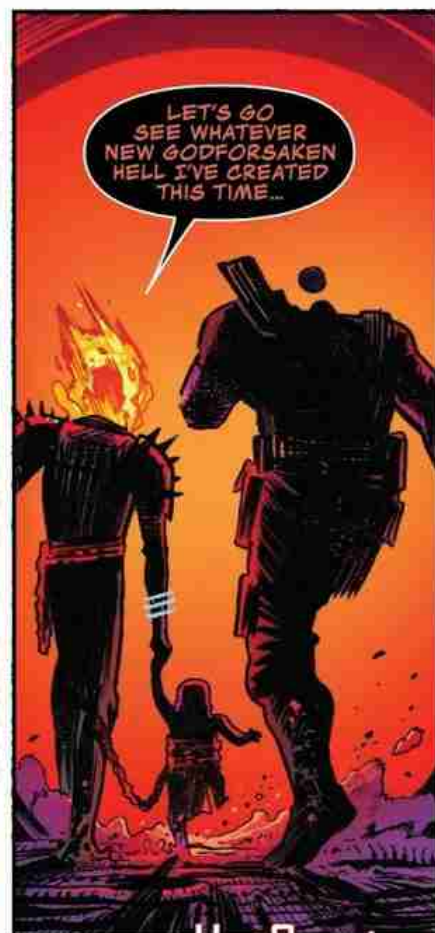
IF I CAN CHANGE
HIS DESTINY,
THEN...MAYBE
THERE'S HOPE
FOR ME TOO.

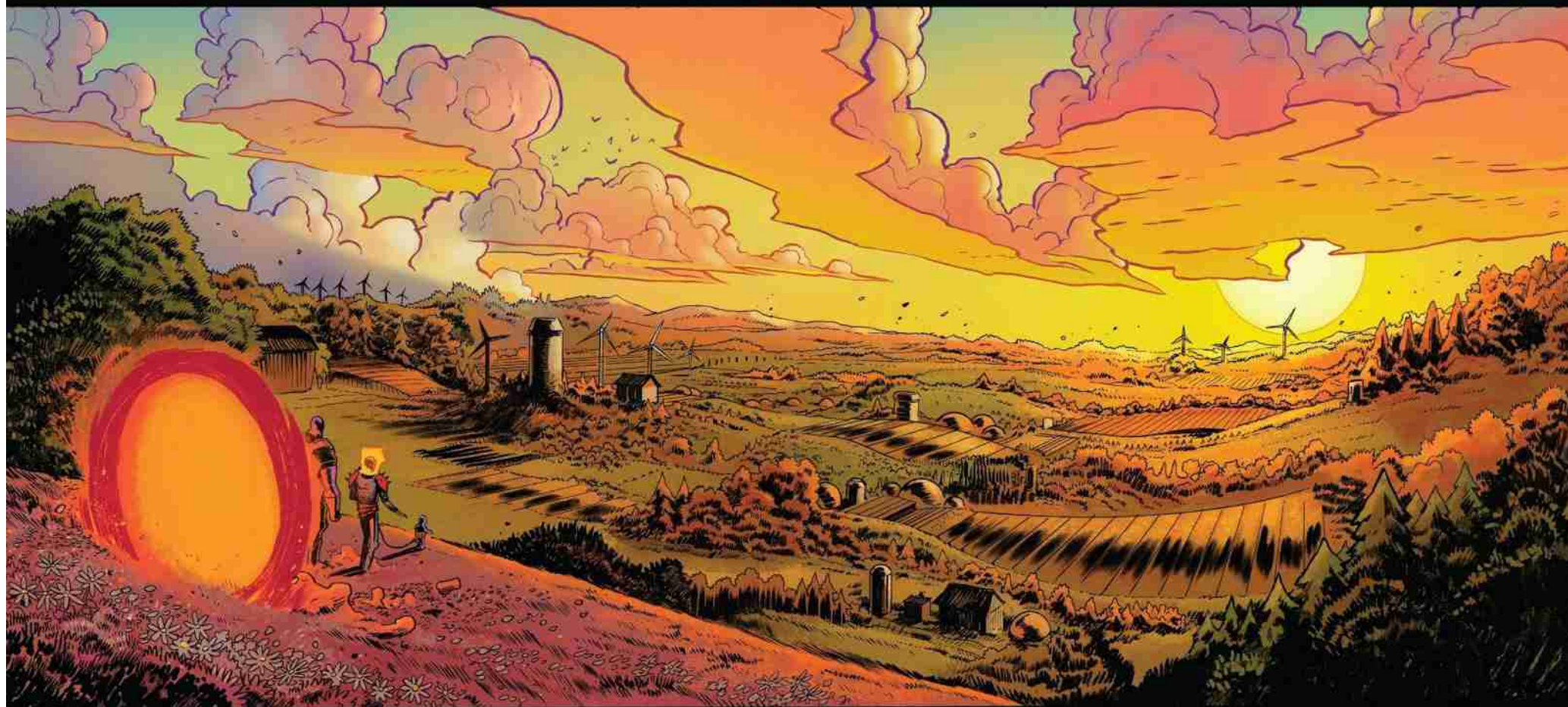
BUT
THEN...THAT'S
THE PROBLEM,
RIGHT?

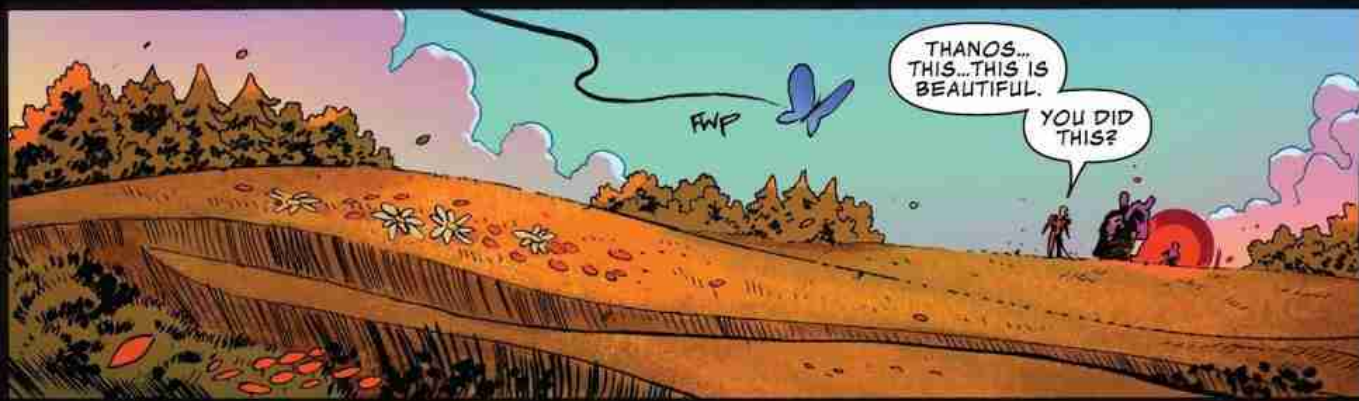
IF I'M A
MONSTER...

...IF I'M TRULY
DAMNED...









THANOS...
THIS...THIS IS
BEAUTIFUL.

YOU DID
THIS?

FWP



WE DID
THIS.
TOGETHER.



THIS IS THE
CULMINATION OF
ALL OF OUR WORK,
FATHER.



NO CRIME. NO PREDATION. A PLACE
WHERE FAMILIES CAN FEEL SAFE.
WHERE THEY CAN WATCH THEIR
CHILDREN GROW AND
BLOSSOM.

THIS IS OUR
DREAM.

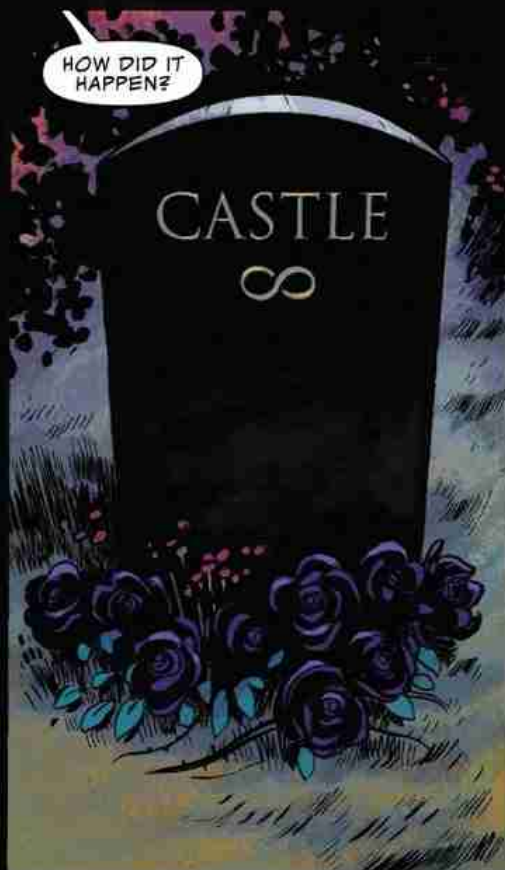


THIS
IS OUR
HOME.



I...









LIBERTY IN



PENANCE

WHAT
HAVE YOU
DONE?



THANOS, WHAT IS THIS?



YES. THIS.

THOSE PEOPLE...THEY DIDN'T WANT THE PEACE WE BROUGHT TO THEM.

THEY WANTED CRIME. MURDER. INJUSTICE. HATE.



IT COULDN'T BE ALLOWED TO SPREAD.

AND SO I SEPARATED THEM. I CAST THEM OUT. IT IS THE MERCIFUL THING TO DO, YES?

THIS IS WHERE CABLE AND HIS LITTLE REBELLION SPAWNED FROM.

MY MICRO-SENTRIES HAVE BEEN EFFECTIVE IN THE PAST AT QUELLING THESE...INSURGENCIES THAT RISE FROM THE CAMPS. BUT SOMEHOW THIS ONE SLIPPED--

CAMPS?



THIS... THIS ISN'T RIGHT. THIS IS INSANE.

THIS IS WHAT YOU WANTED! THESE PEOPLE CAN'T BE ALLOWED TO HURT ANYONE. THEY'RE ANIMALS. THEY HAVE TO BE--



THAT IS NOT WHAT I DO! THAT IS NOT WHAT I WANT!

YOU'RE MAKING THEM SUFFER! YOU'RE TORTURING THEM!



I'M PUNISHING THEM!





BECAUSE
IT IS OUR DESTINY,
FATHER.

WE HAVE
BOTH BEEN
CHOSEN AS
INSTRUMENTS
OF--

NO.
DON'T SAY
THAT.



THERE IS
NO SUCH THING
AS DESTINY. WE
CAN CHANGE THINGS.
THANOS. WE DON'T
HAVE TO BE...

...WHATEVER
WE'VE
BECOME.



WHAT WOULD
YOU HAVE ME DO?
YOU RAISED ME TO NOT
KILL, AND YET...WE CANNOT
ALLOW THESE PEOPLE TO
INTERMINGLE WITH
THE GOOD.

THEY
WILL NEVER
ACCEPT THE LIFE
WE HAVE GIVEN
THEM.

THEY ARE
INCAPABLE OF
PEACE.



THEY
CAN NEVER BE
REDEEMED.









BECAUSE
IF SHE'S STILL
HERE...

...IF
SHE'S STILL
ALIVE...



...WHY DID THIS
ALL STILL HAPPEN?
WHY IS HE IN THERE?
WHY DOES HE ALLOW
YOU TO DO THIS?

HIS LIFE IS
PERFECT! AND...
AND... AND HE STILL
ENDS UP WORKING
FOR YOU! NO, NO,
THAT CAN'T
BE--



BECAUSE
PEOPLE DON'T
CHANGE.

BECAUSE THIS
IS WHO YOU WERE
ALL ALONG.



NO.
NO.
THAT'S NOT
TRUE.



IT WAS
YOU!



YOU
MADE ME
THIS.





MARIE SEVERIN

IN MEMORIAM ■ 1929-2018

AS THE MARVEL AGE DAWNED, Marie Severin was already a fixture in the Marvel Bullpen. In a male-dominated industry, she was a trailblazing colorist and penciler, and an influential art director for some of Marvel's biggest names. Her wit and warm presence left a lasting impression on all who knew her.

Having made her name as a colorist at EC Comics, Marie joined the Marvel Bullpen in 1964, continuing her masterful coloring work. Stan Lee soon recognized her penciling skills and assigned her to work on Doctor Strange in *Strange Tales*, where her work stood shoulder-to-shoulder with previous artists Steve Ditko and Bill Everett. From there, she would draw Marvel's most well-known characters and would even sketch out cover concepts that other artists—such as Jack Kirby and John Buscema—would use to create iconic covers.

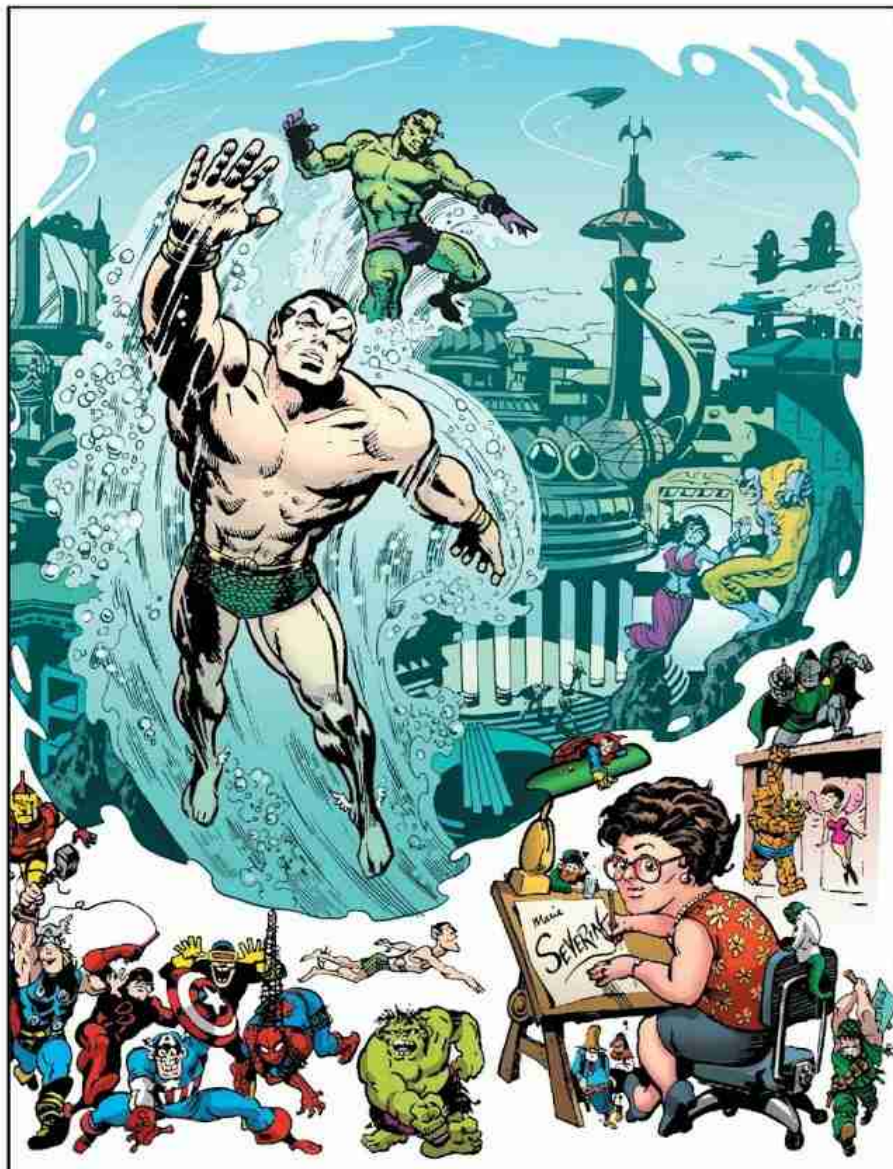
In addition to Doctor Strange, Marie penciled for titles such as *Sub-Mariner*; *Peter Parker, The Spectacular Spider-Man*; and the Hulk in *Tales to Astonish*. She also designed the costume for Spider-Woman and co-created the Cat with Linda Fite.

Writer Gerry Conway remembers Marie Severin as one of his first artistic collaborators on *Kull the Conqueror*.

"She was a warm, generous storytelling partner and a fantastic artist who could draw dramatic action—though her creative strength was in her hilarious cartoons," Gerry said.

For many years, Marie's humor was showcased in *Not Brand Echh*, *Muppet Babies* and *Fraggle Rock*, and past members of the Marvel Bullpen spoke highly of her comical style and inspired caricatures of her co-workers.

"No matter how busy she was—and she was always busy at the drawing board—she was paying close attention to everyone and everything around her," said fellow Bullpenner Linda Fite. "And everyone around her was



SELF-PORTRAIT BY MARIE SEVERIN FROM *FOOM* #8 (1974); COLORS BY RACHELLE ROSENBERG.

the object of her brilliant cartoons—at least one a day, it seemed!—nailing us for our foibles and foolishness. And those cartoons are, I think, the epitome of Marie's character: intelligent, acerbic, affectionate, funny, wry, generous, observant, wise...a zesty sweet-and-sour combination."

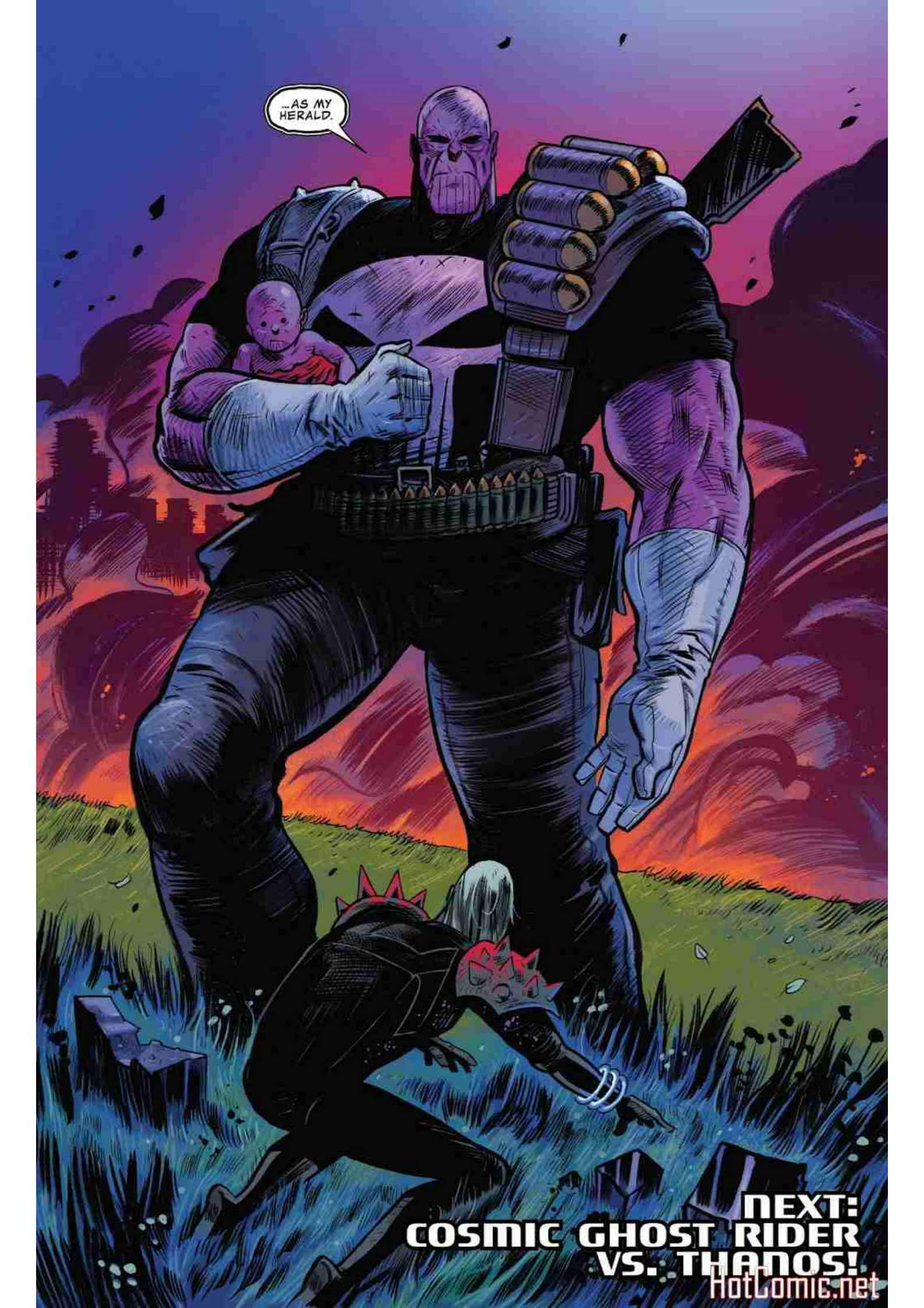
Stephanie Buscema, the granddaughter of Marvel artist John Buscema and an artist in her own right, grew up with Marie as practically part of the family.

"Her wit and humor were unmatched," Stephanie said. "When Marie walked in the room, you immediately knew you were in for a treat—she'd have you rolling with laughter with just a glance. A friend and mentor I'll always

be in awe of; I am forever grateful for the work she's shared with all of us over the years."

Marie's artwork and career continue to inspire a new generation of artists at Marvel and beyond.

"Marie Severin was there in a time when few women were working in the comic industry," said Natacha Bustos, artist of *Moon Girl and Devil Dinosaur*. "She left an essential message to all future generations of female editors, inkers, colorists, letterers, and comic artists: With perseverance, hard work and love for comics, you can open your way between difficulties and do what you like. Thank you very much, Marie." ■

A full-page comic book illustration of Thanos. He is a large, purple-skinned, bald figure with a stern expression. He wears a black tunic with a large, stylized white skull emblem on the chest. His right arm is a mechanical gauntlet with five cylindrical segments, each containing a yellow gem. He holds the severed head of Gamora in his left hand. A speech bubble from his head says "...AS MY HERALD." The background is a dramatic, fiery orange and red sky over a dark, rocky landscape. In the foreground, a small, dark, spiky creature with white hair is crouching on the ground, looking up at Thanos. The overall style is typical of Marvel comic book art, with bold lines and a rich color palette.

...AS MY
HERALD.

NEXT:
COSMIC GHOST RIDER
VS. THANOS!
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NEXT:

COSMIC GHOST RIDER #5



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